

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-14 ACDA-19 SAM-01 /188 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156333

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AFIN, UN, XF

SUBJ: UNEF TROOP REIMBURSEMENT

REF: A. STATE 155288; B. STATE 118561

1. US INTEREST CONTINUES TO BE IN MAINTAINING MOST EFFECTIVE AND PRO-WESTERN MIDDLE EAST PEACEKEEPING FORCES AT LOWEST REASONABLE COST TO UN. WE FEAR THAT LARGE INCREASES IN UNEF/UNDOF COSTS WILL LEAD TO SEVERE UN DEFICIT AS IN UNEF I AND CONGO OPERATION.

2. AS NOTED REF B, US COULD ACCEPT SLIDING SCALE REIMBURSEMENT FORMULA ALONG LINES THAT PROPOSED IN SYG'S MEMORANDUM OF APRIL 30, PROVIDED IT DOES NOT INCREASE COSTS OF UNEF/UNDOF TO UN. WE WOULD ALSO NOT OBJECT TO USE OF ACTUAL COSTS FORMULA EMPLOYED IN EARLIER PEACEKEEPING OPERATION
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IN EVENT HAGGLING OVER FIXED AND EQUAL REIMBURSEMENT MAKES

THIS FORMULA RELATIVELY ATTRACTIVE COMPROMISE. IT HAS ALSO OCCURRED TO US THAT A FORMULA FOR UNEF TROOP REIMBURSEMENT MIGHT BE DEVELOPED WHICH WOULD EMPHASIZE A REASONABLE EQUAL PAYMENT TO ALL TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES (PERHAPS DOLS 300-350 PER MAN MONTH) BUT WOULD PERMIT COUNTRIES HAVING SUBSTANTIAL, LEGITIMATE AND VERIFIABLE ADDITIONAL COSTS TO SUBMIT EXCEPTIONAL CLAIMS ON A VOUCHER BASIS.

3. WE REALIZE THIS MODIFICATION OF PRESENT SYSTEM COULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THOSE LDC'S WISHING TO CASH IN ON SITUATION, BUT YOU MAY WANT TO SUGGEST IT TO BRITISH AND FRENCH (REF A) AND SUBSEQUENTLY USE IDEA WITH SYG AS A MEANS OF STRENGTHENING NEGOTIATING POSITION.

4. SUGGEST YOU ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY KEY LDC DELEGATIONS WHO WOULD BE CONCERNED AT RISE IN UNEF/UNDOF COSTS AND CONSEQUENT EFFECT ON OWN CONTRIBUTIONS AND MIGHT THEREFORE BE PERSUADED TO WORK AGAINST EXCESSIVELY HIGH TROOP REIMBURSEMENT FORMULA. INGERSOLL

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